

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 134742

FOLLOWING REPEAT CARACAS 5714 ACTION SECSTATEINFO USUN  
JUNE 22ND

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 5714

FROM USDEL LOS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION

1. WE UNDERSTAND ARAB GROUP DECIDED TODAY TO UNDERTAKE  
EFFORT IN PLENARY 24 JUNE FOR CONFERENCE TO EXTEND  
INVITATION TO PLO AND AFRICAN NATIONAL LIBERATION  
MOVEMENTS TO PARTICIPATE AS OBSERVERS IN LOS CONFERENCE.  
FORMULA EMPLOYED WILL APPARENTLY PARALLEL THAT ADOPTED  
BY LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE LAST FEBRUARY IN GENEVA AND  
AGAIN APPROVED BY ECOSOC FOR WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE  
TO BE HELD AUGUST IN BUCHAREST AND US-INITIATED WORLD  
FOOD CONFERENCE TO BE HELD NOVEMBER AT ROME. FORMULA IS  
THAT NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS RECOGNIZED BY  
REGIONAL AGENCIES WILL BE ENTITLED TO PARTICIPATE AS  
OBSERVERS ENTITLED TO SPEAK BUT WITHOUT RIGHT TO  
VOTE.

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2. ACTING HEAD OF ISRAELI DEL AMB ROSENNE ACCOMPANIED BY ISRAELI CARACAS EMBASSY ECONOMIC COUNSELOR CALLED ON AMB STEVENSON THIS AFTERNOON TO STRESS IMPORTANCE WHICH GOI WILL ATTACH TO THIS MATTER. ROSENNE RE-RECOUNTED THAT INITIAL, GOI-APPROVED INSTRUCTIONS TO ISRAELI DEL AT LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE HAD BEEN TO TERMINATE PARTICIPATION IF PLO WERE SEATED; HOWEVER, FOR VARIETY OF REASONS, GOI HAD ACCEPTED ISRAEL DEL'S RECOMMENDATION THAT ISRAEL CONTINUE ITS PARTICIPATION AT GENEVA, MAKE A STRONG STATEMENT AGAINST THE PLO, BUT NOT MAKE IMPOSSIBLE A CONFERENCE CONSENSUS TO EXTEND THE INVITATION BY INSISTING ON A VOTE. ISRAELI ECONOMIC COUNSELOR ALSO INFORMED THAT ISRAELI UN DEL HAD NOT ASKED TO BE HEARD BY ECOSOC WHEN DECISIONS TAKEN THIS SPRING ON POPULATION AND FOOD CONFERENCES. ROSENNE SAID HE WILL BE REPORTING IMMEDIATELY TO GOI; IN MEANTIME HE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF USG SUPPORT FOR WHATEVER COURSE GOI MIGHT DECIDE UPON. HE DID NOT THINK THAT GOI WOULD WANT TO GO ALONG WITH A CONSENSUS IN CURRENT CASE SINCE ACQUIESCENCE IN PLO PARTICIPATION IN LAW OF SEA ISSUES COULD BE MORE DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN THAN IN CONNECTION WITH LAW OF WAR MATTERS. (HE DID NOT EXPLAIN FURTHER). WE EXPRESSED PERSONAL OPINION THAT WHATEVER POSITION WE ADOPT, AN ARAB INITIATIVE TO FOLLOW LAW OF WAR AND ECOSOC PRECEDENTS COULD NOT BE SUCCESSFULLY OPPOSED IN VIEW OF LIKELY SUPPORT BY AF, ASIAN AND LA DELS AND THE WISH ON PART OF ALMOST ALL DELS TO DISPOSE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE OF THIS EXTRANEIOUS ISSUE. WE ASSURED ROSENNE THAT WE WOULD KEEP IN CLOSEST TOUCH WITH HIM; SUBSEQUENTLY WE BRIEFED HIM ON ARAB GROUP DECISION WHICH, AT TIME HE CALLED ON STEVENSON, HAD BEEN UNCLEAR. WE WILL BE SEEING ROSENNE DURING COURSE OF SATURDAY SINCE AMERASINGHE HAS SCHEDULED ALL-DAY CONSULTATIONS ON RULES OF PROCEDURE ISSUES.

3. COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION: WE BELIEVE CONFERENCE WILL TAKE UP QUESTION ON MONDAY AND CONCLUDE IT IMMEDIATELY. OVERWHELMING MAJORITY WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY WANT TO DISPOSE OF ISSUE WITHOUT DEBATE AND WILL PRESS

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FOR EXTENSION OF INVITATIONS BY CONSENSUS. IF ISRAELI DEL IS INSTRUCTED NOT TO INSIST ON VOTE, SUCH A CONSENSUS WILL ENCOUNTER NO OPPOSITION; IT WOULD, OF COURSE, BE ACCOMPANIED BY STRONG STATEMENT OF ISRAELI DISSENT. IN THAT CIRCUMSTANCE WE WOULD NOT ANTICIPATE MAKING STATEMENT UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO DO SO. IF, ON OTHER HAND, GOI INSISTS ON A VOTE AND VOTES NO, WE INTEND UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, TO (A) REGRET INJECTION OF

POLITICAL ISSUES IN THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE, AND  
(B) STATE THAT, IN VIEW OF CONTINUING US PARTICIPATION IN  
SEARCH FOR A PERMANENT AND LASTING MIDDLE EAST  
PEACE, US DEL WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPORT OR OPPOSE THE  
INVITATION. WE WOULD ALSO EMPLOY THIS LINE IN CONNECTION  
WITH ANY PRESS INQUIRIES.

4. WILL REPORT ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.  
STEVENSON  
UNQUOTE SISCO

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NNN

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